

fund was but contained in the appropriation bill what everybody understood was a utilization of \$1,400,000 of cash fund that was one time money that was available and used for instructional purposes and correctly that should have been added to their continuation base this year but it was not. In the way it was calculated, you could very properly argue that the University of Nebraska's general fund appropriation taking into account that one time availability of cash funds is less than 5%. In fact, it is about 4.5, 4.6 percent. So from that kind of a comparison, that is pertinent. Certainly, the community colleges are not being mistreated on a percentage basis. The other thing that I wanted to point out that the committee's recommendations to you on all aid programs with the exception of three, all aid programs were not increased at all or at a maximum of 5%, and the only three exceptions is the community colleges which is 6.8%, a minor change was in the mental health regional's state funds which had slightly over 5% and the other was in mental retardation regions which was greater than 5% but that, in large part, reflects the possible activity of allocation or of individuals at Beatrice possibly being transferred to a community based facility. So the consistent policy that we are recommending to you with these exceptions has been because of tight funds to keep the aid program at current level or only at a modest increase, although in the case of the state colleges or the community colleges, their percentage increase is greater than other aid programs that we have recommended to you with the exception of the mental retardation.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol, would you close debate please?

SENATOR NICHOL: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am sorry it has taken so long but I will close quickly. I am not asking to cut any money anywhere else along in education. Secondly, when you look at the cost of medical students in the Omaha med, \$25,000 a piece a year, that is what it is costing the state, \$25,000 a piece to keep people in medical school. That is OK with me. When you grant that increase at 10% or 4%, look what it amounts to. With people attending technical colleges who are there, most of them, for the purpose of learning a trade to increase their financial income later, it doesn't seem hardly fair to be holding their level of increase at this as compared to the medical students. The tuition in our area has been increased as pointed out by someone else, 26% in two years. Maybe we ought to make it a lot more. Maybe we will make it so much they can't go. I just want this for those who are trying to improve their lot a little bit. I think this is perfectly reasonable. I ask you to support it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of Senator Nichol's amendment. Record your vote. Could I have the attention of some of the Senators? We have a vote. The question is the adoption of Senator Nichol's amendment to appropriation bill #954. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 12 ayes, 14 nays on Senator Nichol's amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendment fails. In the North balcony, we